

ARCHDEACON JOHN LEWIS NEWSLETTER

‘Strength through knowledge and faith.’

Friday 10th January 2025

Attendance: 92%

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year and a warm welcome to our new Nursery starters and their families.

I am pleased to announce that the Governors have appointed Mrs Emma Bowen as Acting Deputy Headteacher (Thursday/Friday) who will work alongside Mrs Sarah Richards as Acting Deputy Headteacher (Mon-Weds).

Thank you for your co-operation this week with the revised access to the school grounds due to the risk of ice. In response to this, we have decided to continue with the same drop off and collection of children and the permanent locking of the gate to the left hand side of the school in front of the Nursery classroom. This change will help streamline our busiest times at school, which in turn also enhances our existing safeguarding procedures and security of the premises.

Please can we remind parents that parking is not permitted along the fence of the lower car park, or on the drive way. This includes taxis, for any length of time.

In worship this week we have been learning about the Epiphany and introduced the Christian values **Grateful** and **Generous**. The children in Miss Doran’s class helped to dramatise the story of The Widow’s Mite.

Our Forest School classroom has finally been surveyed and approved. Miss Conlon and the children have been busy preparing it for use. We are eager to start using it straight away and developing the Forest School area. We would be grateful for any donations of bird seed, compost, plant pots & seeds, old kitchen utensils, pots and pans etc that we can put to good use in our Forest School and Eco area.



Attend to Achieve update emails were sent to parents earlier this week. We would like to remind parents that school starts promptly at 8:50am and we will be closely monitoring persistent lateness. Cases of continued persistent lateness may be referred to the Education Welfare Officer.

Please contact the school office if you have any queries about this.

Mrs L Forster

Acting Headteacher

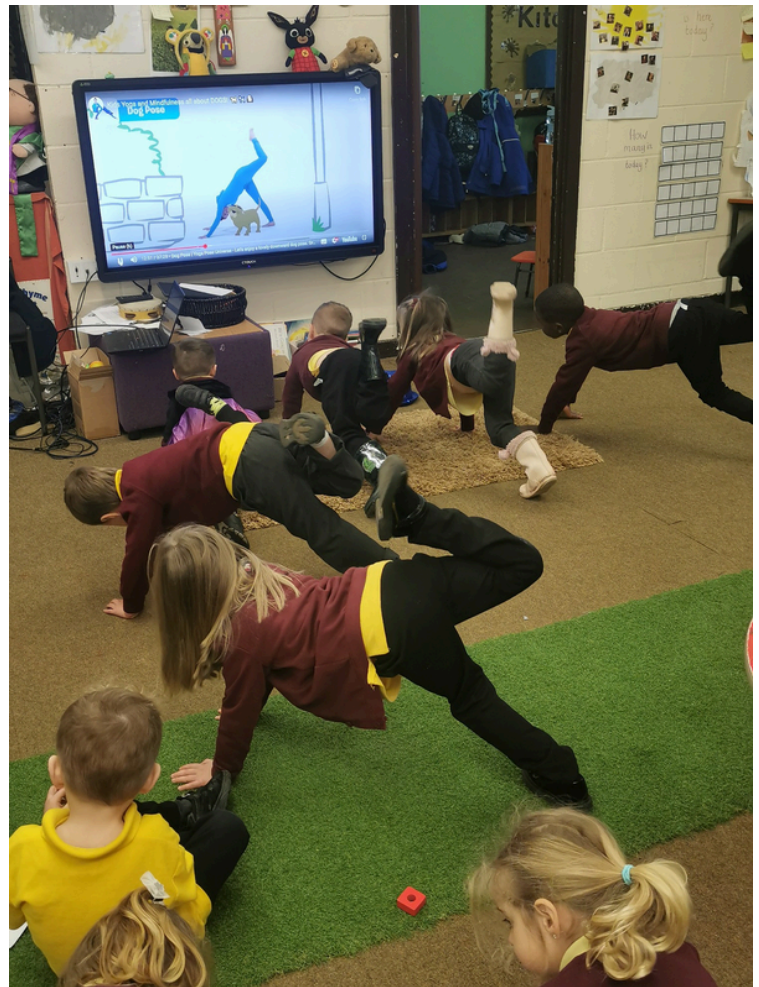
Keep in Touch:

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Mrs Richards and Mrs Morgan's class have been experimenting with bubbles in the freezing cold! They discovered that the bubbles would freeze in places on the ground and on branches.



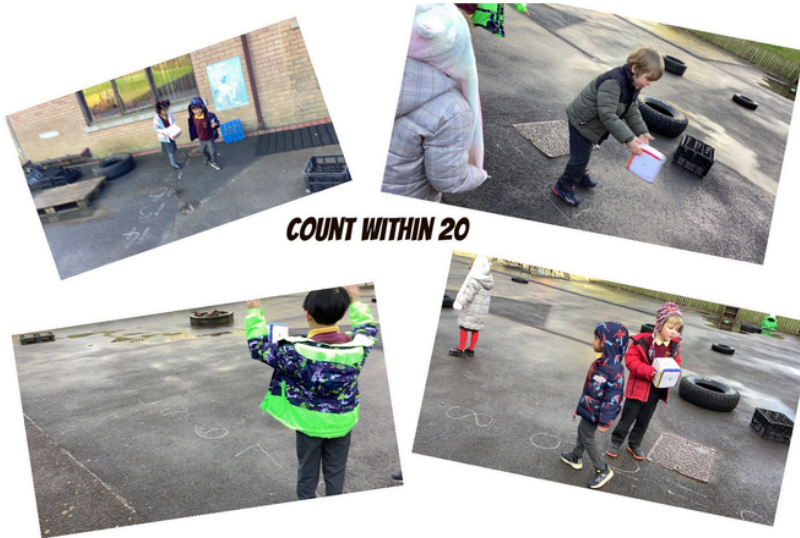
Nursery and Reception have been practicing mindfulness and yoga, while making use of some of our new smart TVs.



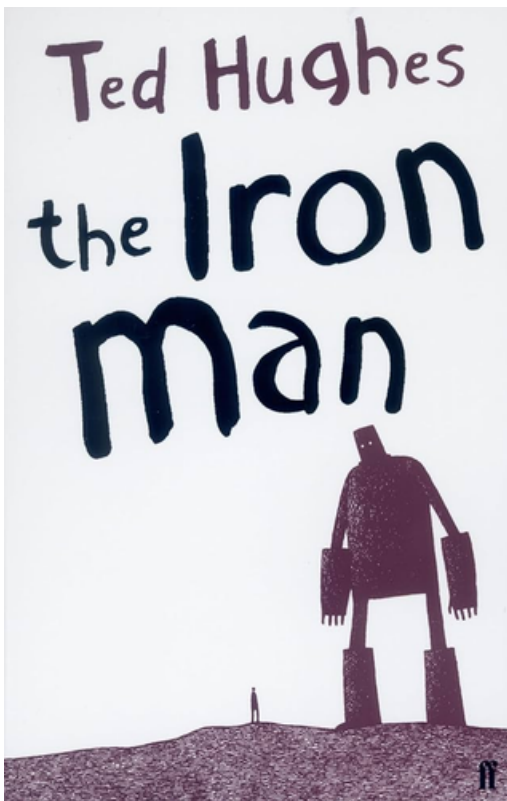
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Mrs Hodges' class have been very busy with Maths this week and making the most of the outdoor areas too.

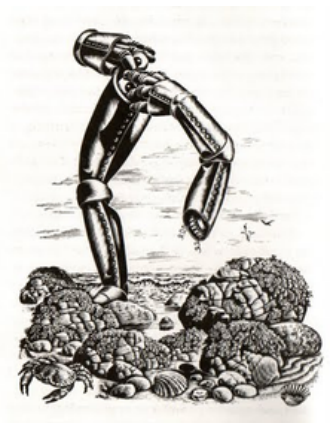


Mrs Bowen's class have started reading The Iron Man by Ted Hughes.



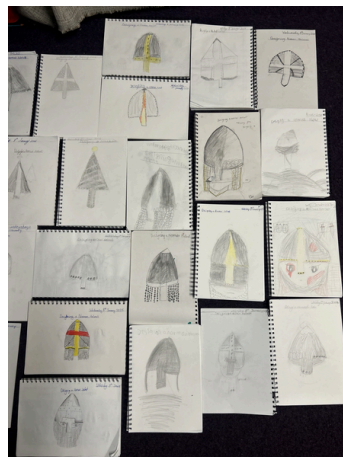
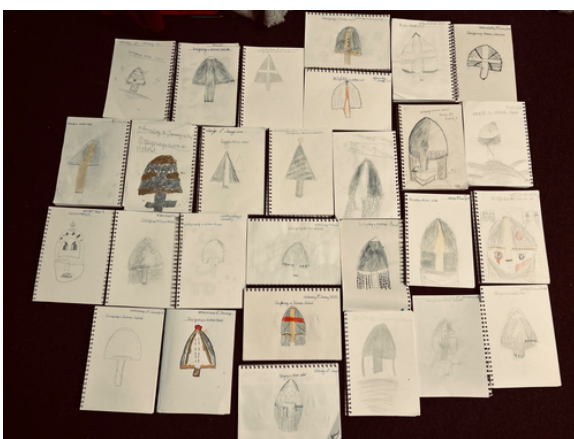
Pupil voice for their new topic:
“We would like more Iron Man challenges and a science experiment on iron and iron man games. We would like to draw iron man.”

This is part of their new topic ‘Mighty Metals’. The class hopes to walk to the park next to Spar on Monday 13th (weather permitting!) to investigate what other metals they can find.



Keep in Touch:

Miss Conlon's class have been loving the wintery conditions and beautiful skies this week while playing hockey. They have also been designing Norman helmets, sketching William the Conqueror and playing the ukulele.



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Miss Doran's class have been investigating a variety of art materials to start their new enquiry topic which focuses on 19th and 20th Century art.

The children have started making their own Found Art which starts off as a collage of images and texts which appeal to them.



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Upcoming Events

- Monday 13th January: Eucharist, 9:15am. All welcome!
- Friday 31st January: Miss Conlon's class Messy Coffee
- Friday 14th February: Deadline for Reception (Sept 2025) applications
- Monday 17th February: Eucharist, 9:15am. All welcome!
- Friday 21st February: INSET Day 4 of 6
- Monday 24th February - Friday 28th February: Half Term
- Wednesday 5th March & Thursday 6th March: Parents' Evening - TBC
- Friday 7th March: Mrs Bowen's class Messy Coffee
- Monday 3rd March - Friday 7th March: Swimming (Year 4 and Year 5)
- Monday 10th March - Friday 14th March: Swimming (Year 4 and Year 6)

Winter Illnesses

We are certainly still in the season of coughs and colds, as well as other common illnesses. Hopefully this will improve at the same time as the weather!

As a reminder, if your child has had any sickness or diarrhoea, they must not attend school for 48 hours after their last episode.

We follow the NHS guidance for common infections, which can be found here:

<https://phw.nhs.wales/services-and-teams/aware-health-protection-team/guidance-for-childcare-preschool-and-educational-settings/>

Absences due to illness are unavoidable on the most part, and sometimes children are ill in school and you will be asked to collect them. If you are unsure about whether or not to send your child in with a niggling cold or cough, we would encourage you to bring them to school. Where a child is struggling we would always contact you. Please refer to the following link for more information:

<https://abbhealthiertogether.cymru.nhs.uk/parentscarers/child-unwell-ok-go-nurseryschool>

Please Keep Us Updated!

Please ensure that your details are kept up to date with the school office. It is essential that we hold up to date address details, phone numbers and email addresses for all parents/carers and emergency contacts.

Any updates to personal information can be submitted on the Gateway app or by email to admin@archdeaconjohnlewisps.bridgend.cymru



Keep in Touch:

SPOTTING THE UNWELL CHILD



“WHY DOESN'T EVERYONE KNOW ABOUT THIS?”

“People often ask me if I’m angry about what happened to Sam. Mostly I feel bereft. What does make me angry is when I hear of the same mistakes that contributed to Sam’s avoidable death happening again and again; more children who die because of delays in diagnosis and treatment; more parents who never had the opportunity to ask “could it be sepsis?” because no one told them it existed.”

Sue Morrish (Sam’s Mum).

This information is derived, with permission, from the SAM leaflet produced by NHS England (South West) to improve recognition of sepsis in children. Contributors include paediatricians, sepsis experts, nurses, GPs and parents of children who’ve had sepsis.



JUST ASK

“COULD IT BE SEPSIS?”

If you’ve been affected by sepsis, visit: sepsistrust.org/get-support, or call: **0808 800 0029** to speak to our specialist support team with many years’ experience. They’re passionate and dedicated to help those struggling with grief, having problems with recovery or trying to support a loved one.

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WHAT IS SEPSIS?

Sepsis is an emergency medical condition where the immune system overreacts to an infection. It affects people of all ages and, without urgent treatment, can lead to organ failure and death. The numbers are staggering – 245,000 people develop sepsis every year in the UK, and 48,000 die. That’s 120 lives lost to sepsis every single day! But, crucially, sepsis is often treatable if caught quickly, so it’s really important to be Sepsis Savvy and to just ask: ‘could it be sepsis?’

Whilst the majority survive, 25,000 children are admitted to hospital with sepsis every year in the UK.

Please use this leaflet if you’re concerned about your child’s symptoms, especially if their illness seems unlike anything they’ve had before, and they’re ‘just not right’ – even if their temperature falls again.

This information will help you monitor your child’s condition so you know:

- When to ask for help
- Where to go
- How to describe the symptoms.



AMBER SYMPTOMS

Some (but not all) children with these symptoms are seriously unwell. Ask for an assessment TODAY from a trained health professional, and Just Ask: “Could it be Sepsis?”

- TEMPERATURE**
 - ☐ Raised temperature (more than 37.5°C) for five days or more
 - ☐ Shivering or shaking
- BREATHING**
 - ☐ Nostrils change size with each breath
 - ☐ Breathing that’s noisy or sounds ‘crackly’
 - ☐ Cough that sounds like a seal barking
- SKIN, LIPS AND TONGUE**
 - ☐ Unusually pale skin, on darker pigmented skin it may be easier to spot changes on the inside of the forearm or palms
 - ☐ Dry mouth, lips and / or tongue
- EATING AND DRINKING**
 - ☐ Baby who is not feeding (taking less than half their usual amount of milk)
 - ☐ Eating much less than normal
 - ☐ Has vomited (been sick) more than twice in the last 24 hours
- TOILET / NAPPIES**
 - ☐ More than five watery poos (diarrhoea) in the last 24 hours in babies younger than one year of age
 - ☐ Only one wee or wet nappy in eight hours
- ACTIVITY AND BODY**
 - ☐ Less interested than usual in playing
 - ☐ Difficult to wake up or unusually sleepy
 - ☐ Swelling of a limb or joint
 - ☐ Not using / putting weight on an arm, leg, hand or foot

It’s sometimes hard to be sure about particular signs and symptoms. If you feel that your child may be seriously ill, or if something that concerns you is not on these lists, call NHS 111, contact your GP, or go to your local Walk-in Centre or Minor Injury Unit depending on your level of concern.

RED SYMPTOMS

Many (but not all) children with these symptoms are seriously unwell.

TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION. DIAL 999 STRAIGHT AWAY. DON’T DELAY.

- ☐ Temperature over 38°C in babies under three months
- ☐ Temperature over 39°C in babies aged three to six months
- ☐ Any high temperature in a child who cannot be encouraged to show interest in anything
- ☐ Low temperature (below 36°C, check three times in a 10 minute period)
- BREATHING**
 - ☐ Finding it much harder to breathe than normal – looks like hard work
 - ☐ Making ‘grunting’ noises with every breath (in newborns this may sound like a lamb bleating)
 - ☐ Very fast breathing (more than one breath each second in babies)
 - ☐ Can’t say more than a few words at once (for older children who normally talk)
 - ☐ Breathing that obviously ‘pauses’
- SKIN LIPS AND TONGUE**
 - ☐ Skin is blue, mottled (purplish, red) or very pale. On darker pigmented skin it may be easier to spot changes on the inside of the forearm or palms
 - ☐ Lips or tongue are bluish
 - ☐ Eyes look ‘sunken’
 - ☐ Hands and feet are unusually cold to touch
 - ☐ Rash that does not fade when pressed firmly (use a clear glass)
- EATING AND DRINKING**
 - ☐ New baby under one month old with no interest in feeding
 - ☐ Not drinking for more than eight hours (when awake)
 - ☐ Extremely thirsty
 - ☐ Unable to keep fluids down
 - ☐ Persistently vomiting for more than 24 hours
 - ☐ Bile-stained (green), bloody or black vomit / sick
- TOILET / NAPPIES**
 - ☐ Not had a wee or wet nappy for 12 hours
- ACTIVITY AND BODY**
 - ☐ Soft spot on a baby’s head is bulging
 - ☐ Child cannot be encouraged to show interest in anything
 - ☐ Baby is floppy
 - ☐ Weak, ‘whining’ or continuous crying in a younger child
 - ☐ Older child who’s confused
 - ☐ Not responding or very irritable
 - ☐ Hard to wake up, won’t stay awake or doesn’t seem to recognise you
 - ☐ Stiff neck, especially when trying to look up and down

If your child has:

AMBER symptoms

SEEK MEDICAL ADVICE AND JUST ASK

“COULD IT BE SEPSIS?”

RED symptoms

GET YOUR CHILD TO HOSPITAL QUICKLY

Dial 999 for an ambulance if necessary